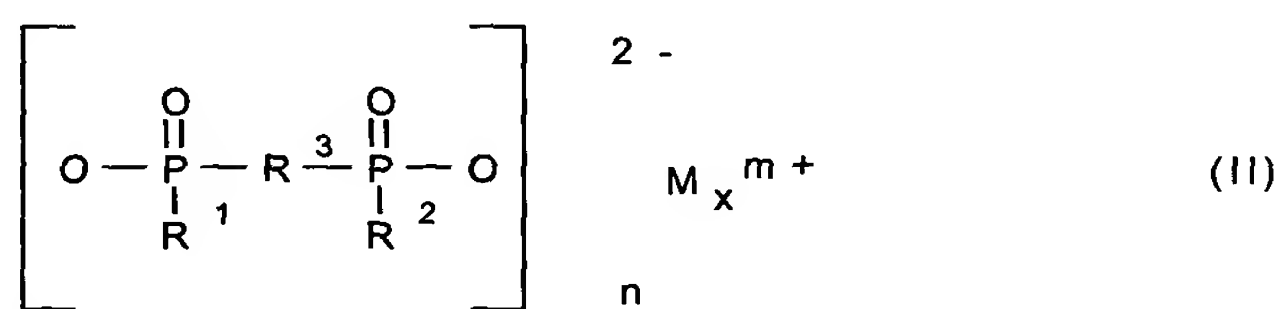
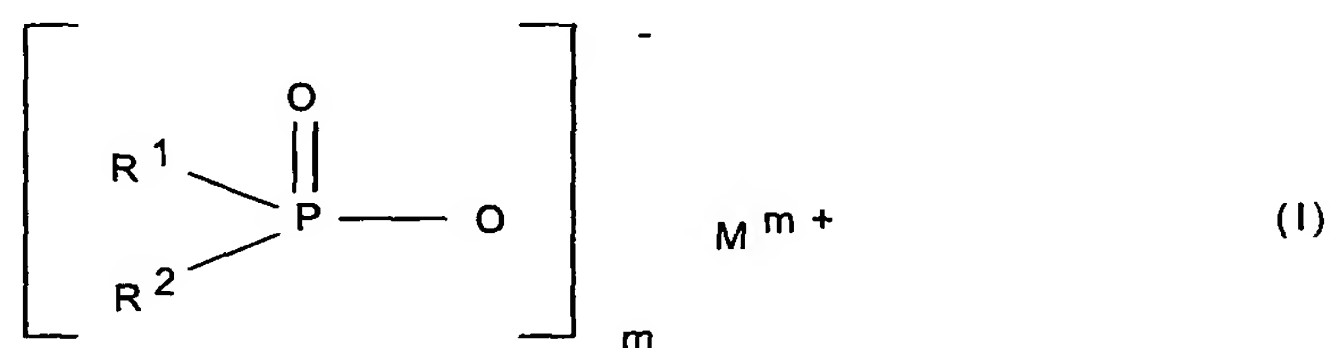


Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compacted flame-retardant composition comprising an organophosphorus flame-retardant component, ~~prepared by compacting an organophosphorus flame-retardant component compacted~~ with or without a compacting auxiliary.
2. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the organophosphorus flame-retardant component is selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these, a mixture of formula (I) and formula (II), a polymer of formula (I), a polymer of formula (II), and a mixture of polymers of formula (I) and formula (II) (component A),



where

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are identical or different and are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, linear or branched, and/or aryl;

R<sup>3</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkylene, linear or branched, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-arylene, -alkylarylene, or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K, and/or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;  
n is from 1 to 4;  
x is from 1 to 4.

3. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein M is calcium, aluminum or zinc.

4. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are identical or different and are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, linear or branched, and/or phenyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are identical or different, and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl, and/or phenyl.

6. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene, ~~or~~ n-dodecylene; phenylene, ~~or~~ naphthylene, methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene, ~~or~~ tert-butyl naphthylene; phenylmethlene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene, or phenylbutylene.

7. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the composition and/or the ~~organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s)~~further comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of melamine phosphate, dimelamine phosphate, melamine pyrophosphate, melamine polyphosphates, melam polyphosphates, melem polyphosphates, and/or melon polyphosphates.

8. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the composition and/or the

~~organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising at least one melamine condensation products, such as a product selected from the group consisting of melam, melem, and/or melon.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the composition and/or the ~~organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s)~~ further comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of oligomeric esters of tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate with aromatic polycarboxylic acids, benzoguanamine, tris(hydroxyethyl) isocyanurate, allantoin, glycoluril, melamine, melamine cyanurate, dicyandiamide, and/or guanidine.

10. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising at least one nitrogen-containing phosphates~~ phosphate of the formulae  $(\text{NH}_4)_y \text{H}_{3-y} \text{PO}_4$  and, respectively, or  $(\text{NH}_4 \text{PO}_3)_z$ , where y is from 1 to 3 and z is from 1 to 10 000.

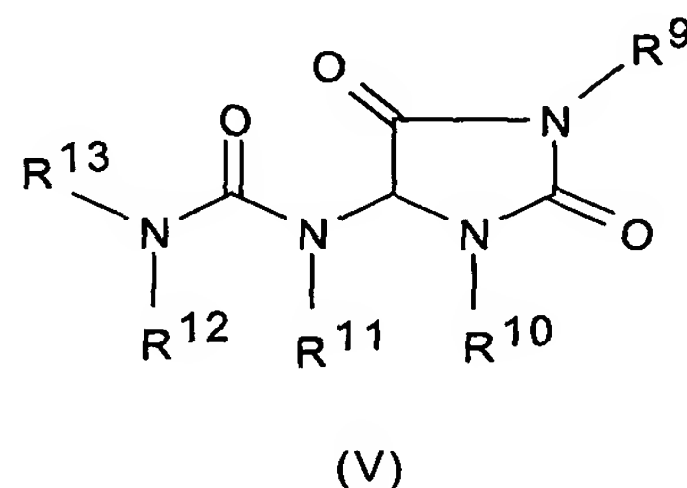
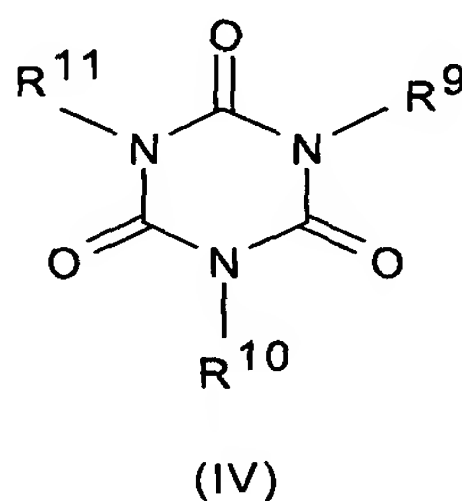
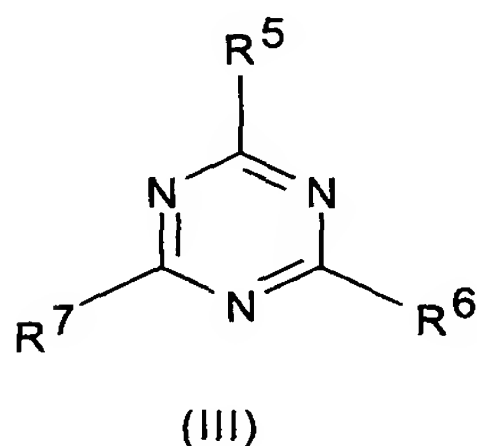
11. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component comprise(s), further comprising as component B, a compound selected from the group consisting of a synthetic inorganic compound and/or a mineral product.~~

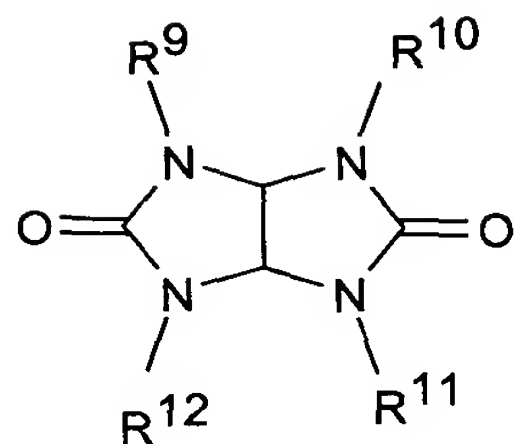
12. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 10, wherein component B is selected from the group consisting of an oxygen compound of silicon, is-magnesium compounds, is metal carbonates of metals of the second main group of the Periodic Table, is-red phosphorus, is-zinc compounds, or-is and aluminum compounds.

13. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to claim~~ 12, wherein the oxygen compounds of silicon are selected from the group consisting of salts and esters of orthosilicic acid and condensation products thereof, ~~are~~ silicates, zeolites, ~~and~~ silicas, ~~are~~ glass powder, glass/ceramic powder, ~~or~~ and ceramic powder; wherein the magnesium compounds are selected from the group consisting of magnesium hydroxide, hydrotalcites, magnesium carbonates, ~~or~~ and magnesium calcium carbonates; wherein the zinc compounds are selected from the group consisting of zinc oxide, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, zinc phosphate, zinc borate, ~~or~~ and zinc sulfides; and wherein the aluminum compounds are selected from the aluminum hydroxide or aluminum phosphate.

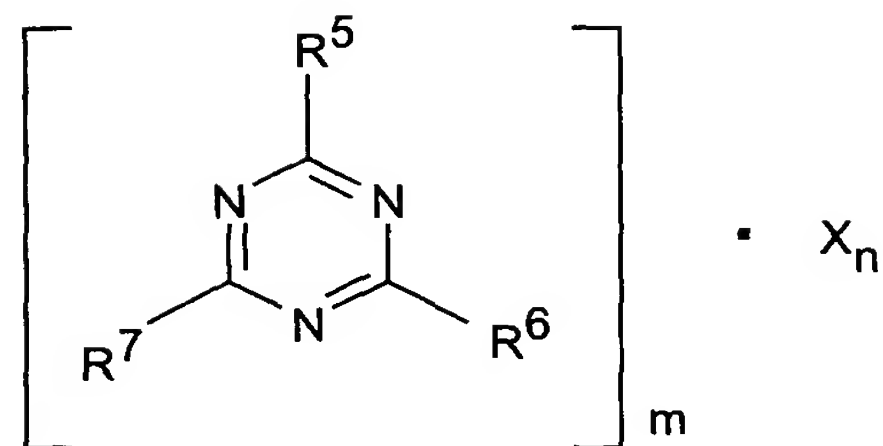
14. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 13, wherein the composition and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component comprise(s) claim 1, further comprising at least one nitrogen compounds compound~~ as further component C.

15. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to claim~~ 14, wherein the at least one nitrogen ~~compounds~~ compound are ~~these of the~~ selected from the group consisting of formulae (III) to (VIII) ~~or~~ and mixtures thereof

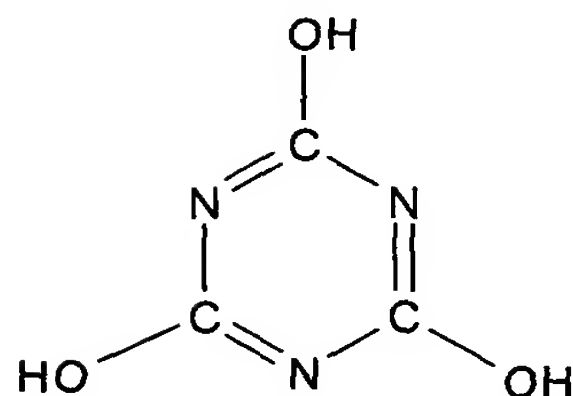
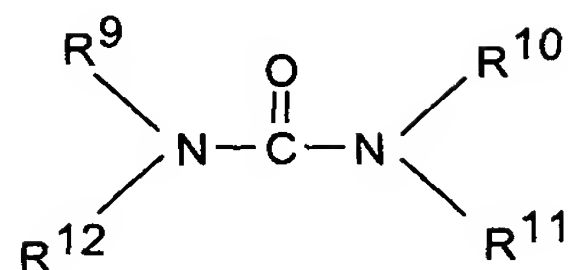




(VI)



(VII)



(VIII)

where

$R^5$  to  $R^7$  are hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkyl, or  $C_5$ - $C_{16}$ -cycloalkyl or -alkylcycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy function or with a  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -hydroxyalkyl function, ~~or are~~  $C_2$ - $C_8$ -alkenyl,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkoxy, -acyl, or -acyloxy, ~~or~~  $C_6$ - $C_{12}$ -aryl or -arylalkyl, ~~or~~  $OR^8$ , ~~or~~  $N(R^8)R^9$ , ~~or else~~ N-alicyclic systems or N-aromatic systems,  $R^8$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{16}$ -cycloalkyl or -alkylcycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy function or with a  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -hydroxyalkyl function, ~~or is~~  $C_2$ - $C_8$ -alkenyl,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ -alkoxy, -acyl, or -acyloxy, ~~or~~  $C_6$ - $C_{12}$ -aryl or -arylalkyl,  $R^9$  to  $R^{13}$  are the groups of  $R^8$ , or ~~else~~  $O-R^8$ , m and n, independently of one another, are 1, 2, 3, or 4, X is ~~acids~~ an acid which can form adducts with triazine compounds (III).

16. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1, wherein the composition ~~and/or the organophosphorus flame-retardant component also comprise(s) further comprises at least one carbodiimides~~ carbodiimide.

17. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 16, which~~ claim 1, wherein the composition has a median particle size of from 100 to 2000  $\mu\text{m}$ , ~~preferably from 200 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .~~

18. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 17, which~~ claim 1, wherein the composition has an average bulk density of from 200 to 1500 g/l, ~~preferably from 300 to 1000 g/l.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 1, wherein the ratio of amount of compacting auxiliary to organophosphorus flame-retardant component is from 1:199 to 1:0.11, ~~preferably from 1:99 to 1:0.25, and particularly preferably from 1:49 to 1:1.~~

20. (Currently Amended) A process for producing compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1, which ~~comprises~~ comprising the step of compacting the organophosphorus flame-retardant component with or without a compacting auxiliary under a pressure of from 1 to 60  $\text{kN/cm}^2$ .

21. (Currently Amended) The process for producing compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 20, ~~which comprises~~ wherein the compacting step further comprises roller compaction.

22. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 21, wherein a linear pressure of from 1 to 30  $\text{kN/cm}$  is used during the roller compaction.

23. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 21 ~~or 22~~, wherein a linear pressure of from 2 to 20  $\text{kN/cm}$  is used during the roller compaction.

24. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed ~~in one or more of claims 20 to 23~~ claim 20, wherein the compacting auxiliary is alkylalkoxylates having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms and from 1 to 80 EO units per mole of alcohol.
25. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed ~~in one or more of claims 20 to 23~~ claim 20, wherein the compacting auxiliary is caprolactam and/or triphenyl phosphate.
26. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed ~~in one or more of claims 20 to 23~~ claim 20, wherein the compacting auxiliary is selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, and/or butylene glycol, their oligomers, and/or polymers, and/or their ethers.
27. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed ~~in one or more of claims 20 to 23~~ claim 20, wherein the compacting auxiliary is selected from the group consisting of naturally occurring, chemically modified, and/or synthetic waxes; preferably carnauba waxes and montan waxes.
28. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed ~~in one or more of claims 20 to 23~~ claim 20, wherein the compacting auxiliary is a synthetic resin ~~resins, preferably phenolic resins.~~
29. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant polymer molding composition ~~which comprises~~ comprising a compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in at least one of claims ~~1 to 19~~ claim 1.
30. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in claim 29, ~~which comprises~~ comprising:  
from 1 to 50% by weight of compacted flame-retardant composition,  
from 1 to 99% by weight of thermoplastic polymer or a mixture of the ~~same~~ thermoplastic polymers.

from 0 to 60% by weight of additives, and  
from 0 to 60% by weight of filler.

31. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in claim 29 ~~or 30, which comprises~~comprising:

from 5 to 30% by weight of compacted flame-retardant composition,  
from 5 to 90% by weight of the thermoplastic polymer or a mixture of ~~the~~  
same thermoplastic polymers,  
from 5 to 40% by weight of additives, and  
from 5 to 40% by weight of filler.

32. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 29 to 31, which also comprises components B and/or C~~claim 29 further comprising at least one of the compounds selected from the group consisting of a synthetic inorganic compound, mineral product and nitrogen compound.

33. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 29 to 32~~claim 30, wherein the thermoplastic polymer or mixture of thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, or blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), ~~or~~ and PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene).

34. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant polymer molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 29 to 33~~claim 30, wherein the thermoplastic polymer or mixture of thermoplastic polymers are selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyester, ~~or~~ and ABS.



35. (Currently Amended) A polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber, comprising a compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in ~~at least one of claims 1 to 19~~claim 1, wherein the polymer article is selected from the group consisting of a polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament and polymer fiber.

36. (Currently Amended) A ~~The polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ as claimed in claim 35, wherein the polymer is a thermoplastic or thermoset polymer.

37. (Currently Amended) A ~~The polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ as claimed in claim 35 or 36, wherein the thermoplastic ~~polymers are~~polymer is selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, or blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), polyamide, polyester, and/or ABS.

38. (Currently Amended) A ~~The polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ as claimed in claim 35 or 36, wherein the thermoset ~~polymers are~~polymer is selected from the group consisting of formaldehyde polymers, epoxy polymers, melamine polymers, or phenolic resin polymers, and/or polyurethanes.

39. (Currently Amended) A ~~The polymer article molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 35 to 37~~, which comprises as claimed in claim 35 comprising:  
from 1 to 50% by weight of compacted flame-retardant composition,  
from 1 to 99% by weight of thermoplastic polymer or a mixture of the same thermoplastic polymers,  
from 0 to 60% by weight of additives, and

from 0 to 60% by weight of filler.

40. (Currently Amended) ~~A The polymer molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber as claimed in one or more of claims 35 to 39, which comprises in claim 35, comprising:~~

from 5 to 30% by weight of compacted flame-retardant composition,

from 5 to 90% by weight of thermoplastic polymer or a mixture of the ~~same~~ thermoplastic polymers,

from 5 to 40% by weight of additives, and

from 5 to 40% by weight of filler.

41. (New) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the composition has a median particle of from 200 to 1000 $\mu$ m.

42. (New) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the composition has an average bulk density of from 300 to 1000g/l.

43. (New) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of amount of compacting auxiliary to organophosphorus flame-retardant component is from 1:99 to 1:0.25.

44. (New) The compacted flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of amount of compacting auxiliary to organophosphorus flame-retardant component is from 1:49 to 1:1.

45. (New) The process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the compacting auxiliary is selected from the group of carnauba waxes and montan waxes.

46. (New) A compacted flame-retardant composition made a process comprising the step of compacting an organophosphorus flame-retardant component, wherein said compacting step is conducted with or without a compacting auxiliary.